

From: [Garyg Miller](#)
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Cc: [Luda Voskov](#); bob.allen@pcs.hctx.net; lhenry@poha.com; gmcmaahan@poha.com; dblume@poha.com; jessica.white@noaa.gov; [Kent D Becher](#); barry.forsythe@fws.gov; [Donn Walters](#); [Carlos Sanchez](#); [Jessica Hernandez](#); [Anne Foster](#)
Subject: Fw: San Jacinto Waste Pits - Press Release and Report
Date: 05/31/2012 05:56 PM
Attachments: [DrKingReportSJWP52012.pdf](#)

Phil,

Please take a look at this report - we will likely be asked about this at the upcoming CAG meeting. Also, Steve, do you have Dr. Beauchamp's email? - we should forward it to him too.

Thanks,

Gary Miller, P.E. (inactive)
Remedial Project Manager
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email: miller.garyg@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Garyg Miller/R6/USEPA/US on 05/31/2012 05:50 PM -----

From: "Scott Jones" <sjones@galvbay.org>
To: "Stokes, Bob" <bstokes@galvbay.org>, "Jennifer Ronk" <jronk@harc.edu>
Cc: Donn Walters/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Garyg Miller/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/31/2012 04:36 PM
Subject: FW: San Jacinto Waste Pits - Press Release and Report

All-

Here is Dr. King's report and the Texans Together press release. I just received it and have not had a chance to read yet.

Jennifer – Can you take a preliminary look and let me know what you think?

Thanks-
Scott

Scott A. Jones
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From: Michael Ruger [mailto:mwruger@texanstogogether.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2012 4:07 PM
To: sjones@galvbay.org
Subject: San Jacinto Waste Pits - Press Release and Report

Hi Scott!

Hope you are having a great day! Here is the press release we sent out as well as the report that Dr. King did. If you have any questions feel free to call me or Fred Lewis.

Best,

Michael Ruger

Press Release, Thursday, May 31, 2012

Contact Charhonda Cox at [713-782-8833](tel:713-782-8833) or info@texanstogogether.org

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New Scientific Report: Public Should Not Swim or Fish Near the San Jacinto River Waste Pits This Summer

Dioxin and Furan Contamination Remains after the State's 2011 Temporary Remediation

(May 31, 2012; Houston, Texas). At a press conference today at 11 am at the San Jacinto Monument, the San Jacinto River Coalition and Texans Together Education Fund released an independent scientific report revealing continued toxic dioxin and furan contamination of the San Jacinto River from the San Jacinto Waste Pits' Superfund Site. Dr. Stephen King, the Houston toxicologist who wrote the

report, states that near the San Jacinto River Waste Pits (SJRWPs) Superfund Site that “wading, swimming, fishing, crabbing, and collecting oysters and clams should be banned. It is strongly recommended that the consumption of fish, crabs, oysters, and clams caught in proximity to the SJRWPs among vulnerable or at-risk individuals, such as pregnant women, infants, children, the elderly, persons with impaired liver function, and among individuals with an impaired immune system be prohibited.”

Dr. King took sediment and seafood samples in proximity to the SJRWPs in September 2011 after completion of a 2011 temporary remediation capping the Waste Pits. Laboratory analysis shows that current levels of toxic dioxins and furans are similar to levels found by governmental authorities in 1990 and 2005—indicating serious contamination remains in the San Jacinto River that flows into Galveston Bay. These toxic wastes came from the Champion/International Paper mill in Pasadena. They were dumped in the 1960’s at a 25 acre waste pit site (now owned by Waste Management), on the banks of the San Jacinto River, where it crosses I-10 East. Subsequently submerged, these toxic wastes have been spread for years by the current throughout the River.

Sarah Davis, a resident of nearby Highlands and a San Jacinto Coalition member, said, “We deserve a clean and safe river. Waste Management and International Paper should remove all their dioxin and other contaminants from the River.”

The report and laboratory analysis was funded by a grant received by Texans Together Education Fund, a 501c3 civic engagement non-profit organization, from the Kirk Mitchell Environmental Law Fund.



DrKingReportSJWP52012.pdf